

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method of identifying a patient with a disorder or at risk for a
2 disorder with abnormal regulation of unsaturated fatty acid metabolism, the method
3 comprising assaying levels of a linoleic acid diol or its respective glucuronide conjugate in a
4 sample from the patient.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said linoleic acid diol is a
2 leukotoxindiol.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said disorder is a member selected
2 from the group consisting of hypertension, adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS),
3 cardiovascular disease and a lipid metabolism defect.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said hypertension is a symptom of a
2 member selected from the group of pre-eclampsia, eclampsia, and pregnancy-induced
3 hypertension.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said level of a linoleic acid diol or its
2 respective glucuronide conjugate is measured by an immunoassay.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said immunoassay is a non-
2 competitive assay.

1 7. The method of claim 5, wherein said immunoassay is a competitive
2 assay.

1 8. The method of claim 5, wherein said immunoassay is an ELISA.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein said sample is a blood sample.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein said sample is an urine sample.